

12-31-80

Edward L. Irvin  
25 Bayberry Lane  
Salisbury, Massachusetts, 01950  
December 31, 1980

Mr Paul Keough, Regional Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
J.F. Kennedy Federal Building  
Boston, MA 02203

DATE: K.J. Quinn  
RE: Y.S.  
OTHER: 538457

Dear Mr Keough:

RE: Article in the Newburyport Daily News Dated Tuesday, December 30, 1980 (attached)

Since this one acre illegal dump site is in New Hampshire but is near two water wells of Salisbury, Massachusetts and the possibility of hazardous waste is involved, I would appreciate it if E.P.A. could look into this situation so we do not have problems like some of our neighboring towns.

If you have any questions of me, I can be reached days in Ipswich at 356-2964.  
Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Edward L. Irvin*

Edward L. Irvin



SDMS DocID

538457

Seabrook selectmen still miffed at state

# Quinn Co. ordered to remove 100 drums from site

By BLANCHE BRAGG

SEABROOK, N.H. — K.J. Quinn Co. has been ordered to remove 100 drums from its chemical specialty plant off Polly Mill Road and install three new wells to monitor the quality of nearby water supplies.

The drums were unearthed from a one-acre illegal dump site this summer by the state Bureau of Solid Waste Management (BSWM) at the

prompting of local officials. But selectmen are still miffed at BSWM's failure to tell them whether the 55-gallon barrels, which have been stored on site at Quinn Co. since June, contain hazardous materials.

BSWM head Thomas Swenson told the Daily News this summer that the sealed drums contained the liquid butyl acetate and the soil contained polyurethane waste resins, including the toxic

metals, ethyl ketone (MEK) and xylene. He said no traces of the toxic resins have been found beyond the actual dump site.

Town officials, however, have received no information detailing the type of waste found at Quinn Co. despite repeated inquiries.

Most recently, selectmen received a letter from Swenson about Dec. 10 meeting between

Quinn Co. and BSWM.

It was agreed, according to the letter, that Quinn Co. would do the following: as soon as possible, install three additional monitoring wells to the east of the waste disposal site; obtain

and analyze water samples from the monitoring wells; and remove from the Quinn plant and deliver to a proper treatment storage or disposal facility the drums that were excavated during the summer.

Samuel Gray, vice president of K.J. Quinn, has since sent word to the state that the company is proceeding to dispose of the waste that was removed from its fill site. Gray said this would be done in strict compliance with all federal and state regulations. Gray noted that copies of related data would be forwarded to the state.

Although no one has confirmed to selectmen if hazardous waste

was at the Polly Mill Road site, the K.J. Quinn Co. is listed in a newsletter of the New Hampshire Water Works Association dated January 1981 as one of the uncontrolled hazardous waste sites in New Hampshire that is under investigation.

There are 14 towns or cities listed under investigation and K.J. Quinn Co. was 17th on the list. The newsletter cites 40 drums

located there, and describes them as containing "solvents." The company, which develops and produces plastics for the automotive industry, is located near two water wells of neighboring Salisbury.

In addition to testing by Quinn and independent tests ordered by the state, the Salisbury Water Supply Co. undertook regular testing of Salisbury well-water this past summer, but found no

contamination.

Seabrook Selectman James Felchner, stated at Monday morning selectmen's meeting that he has attempted to call state officials, but has received no answer.

Selectmen agreed that if the state does not forward the correct information to the town, they will contact the attorney general's office and request an investigation.

THE CHALLENGER BOX

# Local Population down, water demand up

Norwell has just undergone its first real water-restricted summer and also finds its population has decreased. But the local trend is not reflected elsewhere. EPA in its Global 2000 Study warns that without closer international cooperation there will be continued degradation of world environment, accelerated depletion of vital natural resources and crushing over-population. With the results the world will be poorer. Population will increase 100 million a year through 2000. Carbon dioxide and ozone depleting chemicals will warm the climate and melt the polar ice caps. World oil production will reach limits. Arable land will increase too slowly resulting in hunger and social unrest. Plant and animal species will decrease. Drinking water will shrink with double the demand. New England River Basins held a water conservation seminar in Randolph last week. How many officials attended Brockton is involved in a hassle with Kingston over taking water from the Jones River, indicative of hubbards sure to develop. But for all the signs like others before them, they'll be shrugged off or attacked as alarmists and those who think everything is infinite will continue to obstruct every logical measure.

DAILY NEWS  
NEWBURYPORT, MA  
A. 2,400

SEP 18 1980

New  
England  
Newspaper

## DUMP

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Sweeney ordered a one-acre parcel of land on Quinn property be excavated. Approximately 100, 55-gallon drums of the liquid butyl-acetate, were removed along with soil containing polystyrene waste resins including toxic methyl ethyl ketone (MEK) and xylene.

Quinn Co. did not have permission to bury anything at the Folly Mill Road plant, which is located near the wells of neighboring Salisbury.

Soil and groundwater samples were sent away for analysis while the barrels and contaminated soils were removed from the dump, and stored at separate locations on the site. In addition to the Quinn and independent tests, the Salisbury Water Supply Co. undertook regular testing of well-water, but found no contamination.

SWSC manager Joseph Kendra said the tests have since been suspended and noted that the two Salisbury Folly Mill Road wells are currently not in use, due to another, unrelated problem.

Sweeney said the state hopes to have the independent lab reports, taken on about 20 percent of the Quinn Co. samples, in hand in one or two weeks.

In the meantime, state officials are considering various legislative proposals making hazardous waste dumping a felony punishable by stiff fines and jail sentences.

State and federal Environmental Protection Agency officials have recently begun a \$20,000 cleanup operation at illegal dumps in Raymond and Nashua.

Approximately 1,500 barrels of toxic chemicals are believed to be buried at the Raymond site, which is owned and operated by Richard A. Mottolo, of Wakefield, Mass.

## No contamination, Quinn tests show

By MARILYN COHODAS  
SEABROOK, N.H. — Buried materials at the K.J. Quinn Co. have not contaminated soil or water beyond a one-acre dump site off Folly Mill Road, state Bureau of Solid Waste Management head Thomas Sweeney said yesterday.

Sweeney said tests conducted by Quinn Co. show no indication that possibly toxic waste resins "have traveled" beyond the point where the materials were

disposed. He said the state is waiting for the results of an independent lab analysis to corroborate Quinn's test results before deciding what, if any, action will be taken against the company, which develops and produces specialty plastics used primarily in the automobile industry.

This summer, prompted by the urgings of selectmen,

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